STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT #2

PRESENTED TO: U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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Secretary of State
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Meeting the Requirements of HAVA

SECTION 1: How the State will use the requirements payment to meet the requirements of Title III, and, if applicable under Section 251(a)(2), to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections. (Section 254(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(1))

Section 1.1.b. Accessibility for individuals with disabilities:

- Voting system shall be accessible for individuals with disabilities, including nonvisual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation as for other voters; use at least one direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities at each polling place; and if used Title II money to purchase voting machines, meet the voting system standards for disability access by January 1, 2007.

Louisiana's HAVA Compliance:

Previously, two parishes used the iVotronic voting systems for Election Day voting and all sixty-four parishes used the iVotronic voting systems in the Registrar of Voters' offices for early voting in person. The state replaced the iVotronic voting systems for early voting with the AVC Edge voting systems. In addition, the two parishes that previously used the iVotronic voting systems for Election Day voting are using the AVC Advantage voting systems. The AVM-POM voting machines were replaced with the AVC Advantage voting systems that accommodate individuals confined to a wheelchair by lowering the ballot screen to a level that an individual would be able to reach. Both voting systems, the AVC Advantage and AVC Edge, are capable of being equipped with an audio voting keypad to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

HAVA provides that the requirement for a voting system to be accessible for individuals with disabilities is met if each polling place has at least one direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities. Louisiana has a voting system at each precinct that is accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Section 1.6 Other activities to improve the administration of elections:

The State of Louisiana will issue a certification pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §15401 that the state will use the Title II requirements payments to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office. The State's proposed uses of the

requirements payments are not inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA and the use of the funds is consistent with the requirements of Section 251(b) of HAVA. These activities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

▪Act 135 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature continued the program authorizing early voting at additional locations and as the program is expanded the Department of State may need to procure additional voting systems and equipment.

▪Providing the capability for e-mailing ballots to military and overseas voters after the integration of the LASOS system into ERIN.

▪Establishing and using an on-line educational training program for election officials and poll workers through the Department of State's website.

▪Expanding the project to provide images of voter registration documents for disaster recovery and to provide continuity of business in the offices of the Registrars of Voters.

▪Providing functionality in the ERIN system to track provisional ballots and implementing an enhanced website so that a voter can determine if his provisional ballot was counted, and if the ballot was not counted, the reason for the rejection of the ballot.

▪Analyzing the business processes involved in elections and automating the form submission and approval process of manual forms used by the Department of State during the election cycles.

▪Web conferencing between the Department of State and election officials to discuss projects/problems/processes impacting elections for Federal office.

Managing Disbursement of HAVA Funds

SECTION 2. How the State will distribute and monitor the distribution of the requirements payment to units of local government or other entities in the State for carrying out the activities described in paragraph (1), including a description of:
(A) the criteria to be used to determine the eligibility of such units or entities for receiving the payment; and (B) the methods to be used by the State to monitor the performance of the units or entities to whom the payment is distributed, consistent with the performance goals and measures adopted under paragraph (8). (Section 254(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(2))

The (ERIN) system and the (LASOS) system are funded solely through Louisiana's annual state appropriations bill. All funds are expended through Louisiana's Integrated Statewide Information System (ISIS) and follow the criteria of eligibility contained in the Department of State's Financial Accounting and Administrative Policy for allowable expenses and the Louisiana Procurement Code.

In Louisiana, the procurement of voting systems is done on a state level rather than a parish level by the Department of State. As a result, there are no distributions of HAVA requirements payments for the procurement of voting systems to parishes, units of local government, or other entities.

All other HAVA requirements payments are paid through the Department of State; however, in the event that requirements payments are distributed to parishes, the parishes will be required to provide all necessary documentation to substantiate expenses to be reimbursed to the parish.

All funds expended under HAVA are subject to financial and compliance audits through federal auditors, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office and the Department of State's Internal Audit Division.

Educational Programs

SECTION 3. How the State will provide for programs for voter education, election official education and training, and poll worker training which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of Title III. (Section 254 (a)(3), 42 U.S.C. §15404 (a)(3))

Section 3.1 Election Official Education and Training:

The Department of State will continue to prepare training DVDs for the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters to use for elections for Federal office with specific information relating to the races that are on the ballot.

Section 3.2 Poll Worker Training:

Since 2006, the *Informational Pamphlet for Election Day Voting* that is used to train election poll workers (commissioners) has been revised to incorporate the provisions of provisional voting for elections for Federal office. Revisions to the *Informational Pamphlet for Election Day Voting* will continue to be made to incorporate federal and state legislative changes relating to elections for Federal office.

The Department of State will establish an online election poll worker education program which will assist voters in qualifying to serve as election poll workers. In addition, existing election poll workers will be able to access the Department of State's website to review election procedures.

Section 3.3 Voter Education:

The Department of State implemented a more comprehensive voter education program to comply with the requirements of Act 286 of the 2003 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature and the following activities have been included in the program since 2006:

▪Expansion of website information on registration and voting, including providing more comprehensive information relating to elections for Federal office. The Department of State is also preparing an instructional presentation for the Department of State's website that will show how to use the voting systems, including information for voters with disabilities.

▪Expansion of the toll-free telephone system for election information.

▪Coordination with parish election officials to establish community-based programs for voter outreach and education programs.

▪Participation in the National Student/Parent Mock election with the Department of State's elections outreach division coordinating the activities for the State of Louisiana.

▪Dissemination of public service announcements for voter education and registration information.

▪Conducting seminars throughout Louisiana for voter education and registration. In August of 2008, the Department of State will conduct voting rights seminars for the elderly and individuals with disabilities that will include information on closed party primary congressional elections and the seminars will be advertised in radio advertisements on a statewide basis.

Act 560 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature provided for a closed party primary system for congressional elections in Louisiana. In the fall of 2008, Louisiana will hold its first statewide closed party primary congressional elections since 1976. The Department of State will conduct a statewide media campaign geared toward educating the electorate about federal elections and how federal elections interact with state and local elections. The media campaign will also include information on accessibility for voters with disabilities.

In 2008, the following brochures and pamphlets will be published:

Guide to Using the Audio Voting Keypad; State of Louisiana Voting Rights for the Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities; and Voting in Louisiana: A How to Guide. The publications will be updated, as needed, due to legislative and procedural changes and the updated versions of the publications will be placed on the Department of State's website.

Audio Voting Keypad Quick Chart - A new instructional sheet that was designed to streamline the instructions for use of the audio voting keypad. In addition, the Department of State will have the chart printed in Braille to use when conducting voter education seminars. The chart is on the Department of State's website and is available for visually impaired voters who are screen readers.

State Budget

SECTION 6. The State's proposed budget for activities under this part, based on the State's best estimates of the costs of such activities and the amount of funds to be made available, including specific information on: A) the costs of the activities required to be carried out to meet the requirements of Title III; B) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out activities to meet such requirements; and C) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out other activities. (Section 254 (a)(6), 42 U.S.C. §15404 (a)(6))

Title I Funds:

In federal fiscal year 2003, Louisiana received $4,911,421 in Title I, Section 101 funds for the purpose of improving the administration of elections for Federal office and $7,351,684 in Title I, Section 102 funds as reimbursement for the replacement of the AVM-POM lever voting machines. No state match funds were required for any Title I funds.

Title II Funds (Requirements Payments):

Louisiana received Title II federal funds in federal fiscal year 2004 ($12,549,220) and in federal fiscal year 2005 ($22,518,452). As of federal fiscal year 2005, the total amount of Title II payments received by Louisiana was $35,067,672. On January 24, 2008, Louisiana received notification of a new federal allocation of $1,720,843 in Title II federal funds. With this additional federal allocation, the total amount of Title II requirements payments will be $36,788,515.

Under the provisions of Title II, the State of Louisiana must provide a state match of five percent of the total of the requirements payments received which will be $1,936,238. The United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC) has advised the State of Louisiana that a state match will not be required for any interest accumulations received on Title II requirements payments.

The proposed budget for HAVA funds was based on the priorities detailed below. Federal funding was first used to address the mandates placed on the State of Louisiana by HAVA, specifically for the following: procurement of electronic voting systems; accessibility for individuals with disabilities; computerized statewide voter registration list; computerized list maintenance; and verification of registration information.

The original budget estimates in the August 1, 2003 State Plan were based on various projections, the unknown cost of procuring electronic voting systems, and the uncertainty in the amount of funds necessary to implement the requirements of HAVA. After proceeding with the HAVA grant and procuring the HAVA compliant voting systems for Louisiana, it was determined that the original estimated budget for Title II federal expenses for Louisiana should be revised. In November of 2006, the Department of State through the Help America Vote Advisory Committee amended the State Plan based upon projected needs for HAVA funding.

Annually, federal funds, interest funds collected and state funds are allocated to HAVA in the Department of State's budget request and annual state appropriations bill. These funds will continue to be requested and appropriated until the HAVA program is complete and/or all funds appropriated to HAVA have been expended.

Budget for Title II Federal Expenses Based Upon Amendment #1 to the Louisiana State Plan

Budget Item	Title II federal funds allocated	Title II federal budget balance as of 7/31/08
Replacement of non-compliant lever-operated voting systems and upgrade of existing electronic voting systems to meet disability access requirements, including installation, implementation and training.	$26,800,000	$0
1) Statewide voter registration database, including software and hardware, and services to upgrade/replace obsolete software and hardware for Clerks of Court, Registrars of Voters and Secretary of State to provide access to ERIN and improve voter registration, ballot preparation and voting system programming. 2) Implementation of technology to significantly enhance and improve voter registration, absentee and election day voting and reporting of activities. These improvements will require significant investments in hardware, software and services both at the state and local level. Initiatives will be focused on reducing manual data entry and processing, insuring the integrity of the process through more automated records retention, development of more secure, direct, interactive and integrated connections between local, state and federal agencies to insure proper list maintenance, web enabling functions making it easier for the citizenry to update their records and providing stakeholders with significantly enhanced statistical and reporting capabilities.	$7,722,672	$0
Voter education, election official education and training, and poll worker training for meeting the requirements of Title III of HAVA.	$525,000	$0
Update voting system standards.	$0[1]	$0[1]
Development of state plan(s), production of reports, monitoring of performance goals, fiscal management and management of the state plan.	$20,000	$19,420
Telecommunications.	$0[1]	$0[1]
Voting information requirements.	$0[1]	$0[1]
Provisional voting.	$0[1]	$0[1]
State-based administrative complaint procedure.	$0[1]	$0[1]
Requirements for first time voters who register by mail.	$0[1]	$0[1]
TOTAL TITLE II FEDERAL FUNDS (AMENDMENT #1)	$35,067,672	$19,420

[1] "$0" - denotes that money for this program or project will be provided out of funding allocated to the Department of State as a part of its annual state funded budgets.

Budget for Title II Federal Expenses Based Upon Amendment #2 to the Louisiana State Plan

The total amount of Title II federal funds received by Louisiana will be $36,788,515. The Department of State will apply for the additional funding in the amount of $1,720,843 upon issuance of a certification to the EAC. All current and future interest collections will be distributed between the categories listed below, as needed, and to perform other activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office. As of June 30, 2008, Louisiana has received $3,399,269 in interest collections of which $1,291,327 has been expended or encumbered. The balance of interest collections as of June 30, 2008 is $2,107,942.

Budget Item	**Amendment #2, Title II federal funds budget balance**
1) Enhancement, improvement, upgrade and acquisition of equipment for voting systems for absentee by mail voting, early voting and election day voting; purchase of additional voting systems for early voting and election day voting, including installation, implementation and training; and security of voting systems and registration system for early voting at remote sites. 2) Statewide voter registration database, including software and hardware, and services to upgrade/replace obsolete software and hardware for Clerks of Court, Registrars of Voters and Secretary of State to provide access to ERIN and improve voter registration, ballot preparation and voting system programming. 3) Implementation of technology to significantly enhance and improve voter registration, absentee and election day voting and reporting of activities. These improvements will require significant investments in hardware, software and services both at the state and local level. Initiatives will be focused on reducing manual data entry and processing, insuring the integrity of the process through more automated records retention, development of more secure, direct, interactive and integrated connections between local, state and federal agencies to insure proper list maintenance, web enabling functions making it easier for the citizenry to update their records and providing stakeholders with significantly enhanced statistical and reporting capabilities. 4) Implementation of on-line election official education and training and poll worker training. 5) Activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office.	$1,239,263
Voter education and outreach, election official education and training, and poll worker training.	$500,000
Development of state plan(s), production of reports, monitoring of performance goals, fiscal management and management of the state plan.	$1,000
TOTAL TITLE II FEDERAL FUNDS BUDGET BALANCE (AMENDMENT #2)	$1,740,263

Louisiana's Maintenance of Effort

SECTION 7. How the State, in using the requirements payment, will maintain the expenditures of the State for activities funded by the payment at a level that is not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for the fiscal year ending prior to November 2000. (Section 254(a)(7), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(7)) See EAC Advisory 07-003-A for further clarification.

Louisiana has a state-driven election system and Louisiana has and will maintain the expenditures of the state for activities funded by the payment at a level equal to or greater than the level of such expenditures for Louisiana for expenditures consistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA. Under the provisions of EAC Advisory 07-003-A, the fiscal year to be used as the base should be the state fiscal year encompassing June 18, 2003, which is the first date that Louisiana received its first disbursement of HAVA funds. Therefore, state Fiscal Year 2002-2003 is the base year and the maintenance of effort level is $15,998,618 and this is the actual amount of expenses incurred in state Fiscal Year 2002-2003.

Performance Goals and Measures

SECTION 8. How the state will adopt performance goals and measures that will be used by the State to determine its success and the success of units of local government in the State in carrying out the plan, including timetables for meeting each of the elements of the plan, descriptions of the criteria the State will use to measure performance and the process used to develop such criteria, and a description of which official is to be held responsible for ensuring that each performance goal is met. (Section 254(a)(8), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(8))

Section 8.1 Replacement of lever voting machines:

1) Deadline: First Federal election on and after January 1, 2006. Louisiana received a waiver to extend the deadline from the first Federal election on and after January 1, 2004 to the first Federal election on and after January 1, 2006.

2) Criteria: Replacement of AVM-POM voting machines that comply with Title III of HAVA in the fifty parishes that used AVM-POM voting machines in the 2000 Federal election.

3) How Criteria are Judged: Success of meeting the performance goal is based on the number of the AVM-POM voting machines remaining in use in Louisiana after the 2006 deadline. The State of Louisiana met its goal in 2006.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State.

Section 8.2 Voting accessibility for individuals with disabilities:

1) Deadline: First Federal election on and after January 1, 2006.

2) Criteria: Provide at least one direct recording electronic voting system for individuals with disabilities in each precinct in Louisiana.

3) How Criteria are Judged: Success of meeting the performance goal will be based on the placement or retrofitting of direct recording electronic voting systems until each precinct has a voting system that is accessible to individuals with disabilities. The State of Louisiana met its goal in 2006.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.7 Integration of the existing LASOS system into ERIN:

1) Deadline: September 30, 2009.

2) Criteria: Currently, the LASOS system (candidate qualifying, ballots, commissions, offices and races; election administration; commissioner pay; and election results) and the ERIN system (registration) are maintained in two separate systems requiring duplicate maintenance of essential elements for building elections. The mechanisms by which elections are conducted will be migrated into the voter registration system to have a single system of data. This integration will benefit all future federal elections.

3) How Criteria are Judged: Success of meeting this performance goal will be based on the completion of the migration to one statewide system for all election matters.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.8 Establishment of a new election results reporting website:

1) Deadline: November 4, 2008.

2) Criteria: During federal election cycles, the volume of requests to the Department of State's website for election results is greater than the system currently has the capacity to process. The website will be enhanced to improve the user experience, to enable better reporting for the media, and to allow greater access than is currently available.

3) How Criteria are Judged: The success of meeting this performance goal will be based on expediting access to election results, especially during the high volume period on election day.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.9 Implementation of GIS system and other measures to improve redistricting and the reapportionment process:

1) Deadline: January 1, 2010.

2) Criteria: With the upcoming federal decennial census, the Department of State will need a more efficient way to manage the reapportionment process and concurrent redistricting of voters due to the current manual determination of correct districts for voters.

3) How Criteria are Judged: The success of meeting this performance goal will be based on reducing the timeframe for completing the reapportionment process and increasing the accuracy of the process.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.10 Scanning deployment to remaining parishes:

1) Deadline: December, 2009.

2) Criteria: Implementation of scanning of registration documents will provide images of voter registration documents for protection of documents for disaster recovery; expedite processing of absentee by mail requests; expedite processing of provisional ballots; expedite verification of party registration of voters for congressional closed party primary elections; and provide business continuity in the offices of the Registrars of Voters, including entering registration data with a higher degree of accuracy.

3) How Criteria are Judged: The success of meeting this performance goal will be based on implementing the scanning project in the remaining parishes within the established timeframe, including providing training to the Registrars of Voters.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.11 Provisional voting tracking:

1) Deadline: Fall, 2010.

2) Criteria: Providing functionality in the ERIN system to track eligible voters who cast provisional ballots that are counted, including providing an automated mechanism to track provisional ballots that are rejected. Implementing an enhanced website so that a voter can determine if his provisional ballot was counted, and if the ballot was not counted, the reason for the rejection of the ballot.

3) How Criteria are Judged. The success of meeting this performance goal will be based on implementing the process within the established timeframe.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Registrars of Voters.

Section 8.12 Continuation of early voting program:

1) Deadline: Fall, 2008 (ongoing).

2) Criteria: Conducting early voting at additional locations in the state that are not located in the offices of the parish Registrars of Voters.

3) How Criteria are Judged: The success of meeting this performance goal will be based on implementing early voting at additional locations in the state, including establishing secure locations for the conduct of early voting, providing staff, and providing early voting equipment.

4) Responsible Official: Secretary of State in conjunction with the Registrars of Voters.

Use of Title I Payment

SECTION 10. If the State received any payment under Title I, a description of how such payment will affect the activities proposed to be carried out under the plan, including the amount of funds available for such activities. (Section 254(a) (10), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(10))

Budget for Title I, Section 101 Federal Expenses Based Upon Amendment #1 to the Louisiana State Plan

Budget Item	Title I, Section 101, federal funds allocated	Title I, Section 101, federal budget balance as of 7/31/08
Replacement of paper ballot voting system for early voting in person with new voting system, including installation, implementation and training.	$1,538,759	0
1) Statewide voter registration database, including software and hardware, and services to upgrade/replace obsolete software and hardware for Clerks of Court, Registrars of Voters and Secretary of State to provide access to ERIN and improve voter registration, ballot preparation and voting system programming. 2) Implementation of technology to significantly enhance and improve voter registration, absentee and election day voting and reporting of activities. These improvements will require significant investments in hardware, software and services both at the state and local level. Initiatives will be focused on reducing manual data entry and processing, insuring the integrity of the process through more automated records retention, development of more secure, direct, interactive and integrated connections between local, state and federal agencies to insure proper list maintenance, web enabling functions making it easier for the citizenry to update their records and providing stakeholders with significantly enhanced statistical and reporting capabilities.	$3,322,662	$3,099,289
Remaining Section 101 funds to be used for the purposes outlined in Section 101.	$50,000	0
TOTAL TITLE 1, SECTION 101, FEDERAL FUNDS (AMENDMENT #1)	$4,911,421	$3,099,289

Budget for Title I, Section 101 Federal Expenses Based Upon Amendment #2 to the Louisiana State Plan

Louisiana received $4,911,421 in Title 1, Section 101 funds for the purpose of improving the administration of elections for Federal office. All current and future interest collections will be distributed between the categories listed below as needed, and for purposes outlined in Section 101 of HAVA. As of June 30, 2008, Louisiana has received $817,093 in interest collections on Title I, Section 101 funds and none of the accumulated interest has been expended or encumbered.

Budget Item	**Amendment #2, Title I, Section 101 federal funds budget balance**
1) Enhancement, improvement, upgrade and acquisition of equipment for voting systems for absentee by mail voting, early voting and election day voting; purchase of additional voting systems for early voting and election day voting, including installation, implementation and training; and security of voting systems and registration system for early voting at remote sites. 2) Statewide voter registration database, including software and hardware, and services to upgrade/replace obsolete software and hardware for Clerks of Court, Registrars of Voters and Secretary of State to provide access to ERIN and improve voter registration, ballot preparation and voting system programming. 3) Implementation of technology to significantly enhance and improve voter registration, absentee and election day voting and reporting of activities. These improvements will require significant investments in hardware, software and services both at the state and local level. Initiatives will be focused on reducing manual data entry and processing, insuring the integrity of the process through more automated records retention, development of more secure, direct, interactive and integrated connections between local, state and federal agencies to insure proper list maintenance, web enabling functions making it easier for the citizenry to update their records and providing stakeholders with significantly enhanced statistical and reporting capabilities. 4) Implementation of on-line election official education and training and poll worker training. 5) Purposes outlined in Section 101 of HAVA.	$3,099,289
TOTAL TITLE I, SECTION 101, FEDERAL FUNDS (AMENDMENT #2)	**$3,099,289**

State Plan Management

Section 11. How the state will conduct ongoing management of the plan, except that the State may not make any material change in the administration of the plan unless the change: (A) is developed and published in the Federal Register in accordance with Section 255 in the same manner as the State plan; B) is subject to public notice and comment in accordance with Section 256 in the same manner as the State plan; and C) takes effect only after the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on the date the change is published in the Federal Register in accordance with subparagraph (A). (Section 254(a)(11), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(11))

The Secretary of State as the "chief election officer of the state" will continue to be responsible for the ongoing management and implementation of Louisiana's plan with input from the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters to continue to comply with the requirements of HAVA.

The State of Louisiana agrees that it may not make any material change in the administration of the State plan unless the change:

1) Is developed and published in the Federal Register in accordance with Section 255 of HAVA in the same manner as the State Plan;

2) Is subject to public notice and comment in accordance with Section 256 of HAVA in the same manner as the State Plan; and

3) Takes effect only after the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on the date the change is published in the Federal Register.

Changes to State Plan from Previous Fiscal Year

SECTION 12. In the case of a State with a State Plan in effect under this subtitle during the previous fiscal year, a description of how the plan reflects changes from the State Plan for the previous fiscal year and how the State succeeded in carrying out the State Plan for such previous fiscal year. (Section 254(a)(12), 42 U.S.C. §15404(a)(12))

Amendment #2 to the state plan dated July 31, 2008 contains changes to the state plan as follows:

1) Updates the activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office.

2) Updates the activities relating to educational programs for election officials, election poll workers, and voters.

3) Updates the budget allocations and use of the Title II federal funds, increases the federal funding by $1,720,843, and updates the budget allocations for current and future interest accumulations.

4) Updates and provides additional performance goals and measures that will be used by the State of Louisiana to determine its success in carrying out the plan.

5) Updates the budget allocations and use of the Title I payments for Title I, Section 101 funds and updates the budget allocations for current and future interest accumulations.

State of Louisiana's Progress on the Implementation of HAVA:

Compliance with Section 301, Replacement of Lever Voting Machines and Disability Access:

Implementation of Voting Systems:

Early voting: The Department of State completed the implementation of the AVC Edge voting system in all parishes in the state for early voting that was conducted prior to the September 30, 2006 statewide election.

Election day voting: The Department of State completed implementation of the AVC Advantage voting system in all parishes in the state for the September 30, 2006 statewide election. In addition, the Department of State purchased additional AVC Advantage voting systems for one voting system precincts in June of 2008 and the voting systems were purchased with state general fund dollars.

Early voting program:

Act 135 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorizes the continuation of the program for early voting at additional locations selected by the Secretary of State based on feasibility, accessibility, and the number of registered voters. The Department of State, in conjunction with the Registrars of Voters in two parishes, conducted early voting at additional locations in 2007 and the Department is in the process of expanding the program and has requested approval from the Louisiana Legislature to conduct the early voting program in additional parishes for the fall elections in 2008.

Provisional voting:

Provisional voting was conducted in elections for Federal offices on November 7, 2006 (Congressional Primary); December 9, 2006 (Congressional General); February 9, 2008 (Presidential Preference Primary); March 8, 2008 (Special Congressional First Party Primary); April 5, 2008 (Special Congressional Second Party Primary); and May 3, 2008 (Special Congressional General).

PROVISIONAL VOTING STATISTICS (2006, 2008)

ELECTION DATE	NUMBER OF PROVISIONAL BALLOTS CAST	NUMBER OF PROVISIONAL BALLOTS COUNTED	NUMBER OF PROVISIONAL BALLOTS REJECTED
November 7, 2006	274	137	137
December 9, 2006	69	58	11
February 9, 2008	2634	132	2502
March 8, 2008	164	31	133
April 5, 2008	93	11	82
May 3, 2008	9	6	3

Computerized Statewide Voter Registration List:

ERIN upgrades:

The Department of State completed the following major enhancements and programs: improving the canvass process; adding voter queue for applications received after the close of books; continuing the process of reviewing information contained in the Social Security Administration Death Master File; redesigning the election results website; migration and redesign of the Louisiana Poll Locator; processing user group requests; and obtaining and delivering new printers to registrars of voters.

Records retention:

The project to insure the retention of voter registration records through imaging (scanning), indexing, storage and retrieval of paper documents for the Orleans and Cameron Parish Registrars of Voters was completed in September of 2007 and the project will be expanded to the remaining parishes in the State of Louisiana.

Election Official Education and Training:

Prior to the federal elections in 2006, the Department of State conducted training sessions for election officials on provisional voting.

In 2007, each Clerk of Court was provided with a Clerk of Court Training DVD prepared by the Department of State for use at commissioner schools. This DVD contains training information and instructions on the following: use of the AVC Advantage voting system; use of the new audio voting keypad; and the proper etiquette when an individual with a disability goes to the polls on Election Day. On Election Day, the audio voting keypad shall be offered by the election poll workers to individuals who are visually impaired, blind, illiterate, physically disabled, or have difficulty understanding the written word.

The *Informational Pamphlet for Election Day Voting* was revised to include updated voting information and incorporate the provisions of provisional voting.

The Department of State conducted training sessions for election officials on the congressional closed party primary elections and provisional voting prior to the special congressional elections in the spring of 2008. The Department of State also prepared DVDs for the Clerks of Court and Registrars of Voters to use for training with specific information relating to the special congressional elections that were held in the spring of 2008 and the elections for Federal office that are scheduled for the fall of 2008.

Training on the new voting system:

In 2006, the Department of State held parish by parish and statewide training on the new voting system for local election officials and fully supported the first two elections in every parish on the new voting system. The Department of State continues to provide training and support on the voting systems.

Voter Education:

Annual voter registration week:

The annual voter registration week authorized by Act 286 of the 2003 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature was held August 7-11, 2006; August 27-31, 2007; and July 14-18, 2008.

Informational brochures and pamphlets:

In 2006, the following brochures and pamphlets were published:

Guide to Using the Audio Voting Keypad; State of Louisiana Voting Rights for Individuals with Disabilities and Residents of Nursing Homes; and *Your Voice Register and Vote: A How to Guide.* The publications will be updated, as needed, due to legislative and procedural changes and the updated versions of the publications will be placed on the Department of State's website.

Audio Voting Keypad Quick Chart - A new instructional sheet that was designed to streamline the instructions for the use of the audio voting keypad. In addition, the Department of State used the charts when conducting voter education seminars. The chart is on the Department of State's website and is available for visually impaired voters who are screen readers.

Seminars:

In 2006, the Department of State held nine regional seminars for individuals with disabilities to provide voting information and demonstrate the new voting systems with the audio voting keypad.

In 2008, the Department of State will hold nine regional seminars for individuals with disabilities, the elderly and various organizations that work with individuals with disabilities and the elderly to provide information on registration, voting and the congressional closed party primary elections.

Help America Vote Advisory Committee

In May of 2008, Jay Dardenne, Secretary of State, named the following members to serve on the Louisiana Help America Vote Advisory Committee:

Honorable Jay Dardenne (Chairman)
Secretary of State
Department of State
Post Office Box 94125
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9125
Secretary of State

Honorable Louie Bernard
Clerk of Court, Natchitoches Parish
Post Office Box 476
Natchitoches, LA 71458-0476
Chief Parish Election Official

Mr. Jason Collier
9929 Mint Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Representative of the Disabilities Community

Honorable Richard "Rick" Gallot, Jr.
State Representative
Post Office Box 1117
Ruston, Louisiana 71273-1117
Chairman of the House & Governmental Affairs Committee of the Louisiana Legislature (Democrat)

Honorable Jon A. Gegenheimer
Clerk of Court, Jefferson Parish
Post Office Box 10
Gretna, Louisiana 70054
Chief Parish Election Official in the second largest jurisdiction

Honorable Robert W. “Bob” Kostelka
State Senator
Post Office Box 2122
Monroe, Louisiana 71207
Chairman of the Senate & Governmental Affairs Committee of the Louisiana Legislature (Republican)

Ms. Angie LaPlace
Commissioner of Elections
Post Office Box 94125
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804
Representative of the Louisiana Department of State

Honorable John Moreau
Registrar of Voters, St. Landry Parish
Post Office Box 818
Opelousas, LA 70571-0818
Representative of the Registrars of Voters

Honorable Arthur Morrell
Clerk of the Criminal Court, Orleans Parish
2700 Tulane Ave., Room 115
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119
Chief Parish Election Official in the largest jurisdiction

Honorable Karen Carter Peterson
State Representative
1215 Prytania St., Suite 364
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Representative of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus

Honorable Linda Rodrigue
Registrar of Voters, Terrebonne Parish
Post Office Box 9189
Houma, LA 70361
Representative of the Registrars of Voters

Honorable John Russell
Registrar of Voters, Tangipahoa Parish
Post Office Box 895
Amite, LA 70422-0895
Representative of the Registrars of Voters

Ms. Lois V. Simpson, Executive Director
The Advocacy Center
1010 Common Street, Suite 2600
New Orleans, LA 70112-2429
Representative of the Disabilities Community

Honorable M. J. "Mert" Smiley
State Representative
18590 Highway 16, Suite 5
Port Vincent, Louisiana 70726
Representative of the House & Governmental Affairs Committee of the Louisiana Legislature (Republican)

Honorable John R. Smith
State Senator
611-B South 5th St.
Leesville, Louisiana 71446
Representative of the Senate & Governmental Affairs Committee of the Louisiana Legislature (Democrat)

Ms. Uma Subramanian
Deputy Executive Counsel to the Governor
Post Office Box 94004
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9004
Representative of the Governor's Office

The Louisiana Help America Vote Advisory Committee met on July 31, 2008 to consider the draft of the Preliminary Amended State Plan Amendment #2 and adopted the preliminary amended state plan by a unanimous vote of the members present.

The Preliminary Amended State Plan Amendment #2 is available on the Department of State's website for public inspection and comment. In addition, the Preliminary Amended State Plan Amendment #2 is available at the office of the Department of State, Legal Division, 8585 Archives Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA for public inspection and comment.